

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

May 15, 2012

The Office of the Los Angeles County Assessor is currently surrounded by controversy, in large part due to the Assessor’s perceived inappropriate relationship with a Tax Agent. It has been reported in the press, that these agents have solicited campaign donations from their clients for the Assessor’s election.

In Los Angeles County, Tax Agents represent and advocate for property owners before both our County Assessor and Assessment Appeals Board. Like lobbyists, they are paid to represent their clients and influence decisions. This process must be regulated and transparent to the public. The County of Los Angeles has a very effective Lobbyist Ordinance that regulates what these individuals can do.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Office of County Counsel to draft language to include Tax Agents or any other person that may represent property owners before the Assessor or the Assessment Appeals Board under the County’s existing Lobbyist Ordinance (Chapter 2.160) in the County Code and bring the proposed language before the Board in 15 days.

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MOTION

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RIDLEY-THOMAS	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____